

a<sup>1</sup>  
--as shown in block 30, the client generates--;

On line 28, after the words "per client basis", please insert the words  
--as shown in block 34--;

On page 6, line 21, after the words "from the client" please insert the words  
--as shown in block 40--;

On page 7, line 27, please delete the words "the client determines" and insert  
therefor ~~As shown in block 64, the client determines--.~~

a<sup>2</sup>  
In the claims, please amend claims 1-4, 9-12, 14-18 and 21-24 as follows:

Sub B  
a<sup>3</sup>  
1. (Once Amended) A method for providing updated digital signature key pairs in a public key system comprising the steps of:

providing, through a multi-client manager unit, selectable expiry data including at least public key expiry data and selectable private key expiry data that is selectable on a per client basis;

digitally storing both selected public key expiry data and selected private key expiry data for association with a new digital signature key pair; and

associating the stored selected expiry data with the new digital signature key pair to [facilitate] affect a transition from an old digital signature key pair to a new digital signature key pair.

J  
2. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the selectable expiry data is digital signature certificate lifetime data for variably setting a lifetime end date for a digital signature certificate [associated with a given client].

3. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1 further including the step of providing variable update privilege control on a per client basis to the multi-client manager unit to facilitate denial of updating the digital signature key pair on a per client basis.